



SR0101

LRB096 11704 HLH 22407 r

1

SENATE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, The State of Illinois faces an unprecedented budget and fiscal crisis that jeopardizes the operation of State government and the proper delivery of State services; and

3

4

5

WHEREAS, The Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability (COGFA) indicated on February 5, 2009 that the revenue shortfall for the current fiscal year will be no less than \$2.4 billion; and

6

7

8

9

WHEREAS, The current Fiscal Year 2009 estimated revenue shortfall and budget deficit are due to many factors predominantly related to the Nation's economic conditions; and

10

11

12

WHEREAS, Regardless of the current fiscal condition of the State, State government is responsible for continuing to provide health care services necessary to maintain the well-being of every Illinois citizen; and

13

14

15

16

WHEREAS, Regardless of the current fiscal condition of the State, State government is responsible for continuing to provide sustainable funding to support the public education system; and

17

18

19

20

WHEREAS, The State's Fiscal Year 2010 required pension

1 contribution totals \$4.1 billion; and

2 WHEREAS, The Illinois Comptroller has identified that, at  
3 the end of Fiscal Year 2009, the State of Illinois will have a  
4 backlog of bills totaling \$4.5 billion; and

5 WHEREAS, Regardless of the current fiscal condition of the  
6 State, State government has the responsibility of paying its  
7 bills on time and identifying unnecessary spending; therefore,  
8 be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL  
10 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that a Senate Committee on  
11 Deficit Reduction is created and charged with the task of  
12 studying all aspects of the estimated budget deficit and  
13 revenue shortfall, including, but not limited to: the fiscal  
14 costs associated with education, healthcare, pensions, and the  
15 operation of State government and departments within State  
16 government, as well as all revenue sources that support State  
17 government; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Committee shall be made up of 10  
19 members: 5 shall be appointed by the President of the Senate  
20 and 5 shall be appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate;  
21 and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That the Committee shall have Co-Chairpersons,  
2 one appointed by the President of the Senate and one appointed  
3 by the Minority Leader of the Senate; Co-Chairpersons shall not  
4 be of the same caucus and shall serve at the pleasure of the  
5 caucus leader making the appointment; and be it further

6           RESOLVED, That meetings of the Committee shall be posted  
7 and open to the public in accordance with Senate Rules; and be  
8 it further

9           RESOLVED, That the Committee may call upon Constitutional  
10 Officers, the Governor's Office of Management and Budget, the  
11 Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability, State  
12 Pensions Systems, representatives of public employees,  
13 advocates, and any additional agencies or groups as the  
14 Committee sees fit in order to hear testimony and gather  
15 details and information relating to the purposes of the  
16 Committee; and be it further

17           RESOLVED, That the Committee shall be appointed no later  
18 than 1 week after the adoption of this resolution, and the  
19 Committee shall submit a report no later than March 25, 2009 to  
20 the President of the Senate and the Minority Leader of the  
21 Senate.